Dear Jim, Don Freed 6/1/75

I took the program of the Freed UCLA thing as a pretty clear sign of his intent to plagiarize my work or seek a legal way around that.

So, I wrote him.

Yesterday I showed you his letter.

Today I replied. I'll show you the reply before mailing it.

Today I also had a phone call from a Hollywood contact who had written he that he had doubts about Freed's integrity. He spelled it out in the call.

He had a conversation with Freed at one of the parties surrounding the UCLA meeting.

It left him without doubt that Freed is ripping off.

Freed told him that "we" are proceeding on the MLK movie.

And there was actually a discussion, not initiated by Freed, about the minor industry of ripping me off and whether it is legal because my work becomes public domain or whether part of it is not public domain, hence plagiarism!

The reference to insurance companies is to something Don told me when there was the Wakeford-Orloff effort. He said that if they cribbed my work all I had to do was let the insurance comapnies know. They don't dare an uninsured movie and the insurance companies and edgy. All four in the field, that is.

(He went farthur and blamed Jonn Christian's influencing the Sirhan family for giving him his first problem on that movie. Yup, insurance.)

I hate this thoroughly.

But when there has been virtually nobody doing any real work and all these outre types start believing of themselves what they say and then have to have something to back it up where can they turn?

My hunch is that Don will turn to Mark, who is the largest plagiarizer by far of the well-knowns. And he'll probably believe Mark. (I do not remember your telling me that Mark denied Executive Action was stolen from Farewell America, as you said for me. Nor has Gandolfo sent me the tapes.)

If I do hate to even think of these things, they have the capability of working out with side benefits it I have to do anything and it is possible.

One of Mark's sicknesses is that he actually believes he owns the field and practises it. Thus his thievery is not competent. He also pretends authoritativeness with redundant and often crooked footnotes. One of those in Citizen's Dissent is a beaut. And I have him in a show we did together justifying stealing as right and proper. On tape. Professional.

The drafts of those contracts are such legal outrages I didn't even bother you to read them. I could tear them apart and Don agreed in writing that he'd come up with a meaningful one. Then apparently decided to steal another way since I would not license it.

If we have the chance to learn who is backing him and the names of the insurance companies and they are started (which I doubt) - he told me the corporation was set up and financed - a beginning is possible.

When I see how my Hollywood contact shapes up maye he can learn which insurers there are for me. Or Art.

Jeff Cohen is a dead giveaway on Don's intentions. And potential.

Best,

P.S. This guy knows Bud's cop client and seems to have some kind of deal. Mac D.
They called Bud from the party and Freed and his companion planned [illegible]